

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT(S): Norman R. Westfall

SERIAL NO: 040,457

EXAMINER: C. Cuda

FILED: 1 April 1993

GROUP ART UNIT: 3201

TITLE: CURL SPRING SHOE BASED WINDOW BALANCE SYSTEM

4/6/94
JML

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND SPECIES ELECTION

MAILED 9 MARCH 1994

RECEIVED

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GROUP 3200

Commissioner of Patents
and Trademarks
Washington, D. C. 20231

Dear Sir:

In response to the restriction requirement made in the Office Action of 9 March 1994, applicant elects Group II counterbalance system claims 1-19, 32-35, and 45-54. This election is made without prejudice to the right to pursue the unelected claims in other related patent applications.

For the species election requirement made in the same Office Action, applicant elects the species of FIGS. 4-13 for prosecution on the merits. Also, to provide the application with generic claims covering the various species, applicant amends claims 20, 27, 36, and 55 as follows:

19 ~~20.~~ (AMENDED) [A sash shoe configured for running in a shoe channel of a window jamb to transmit counterbalance lifting force to a sash, the] The balance system of claim 8 including a sash shoe comprising:

- a. a shoe body containing a curled length of a curl spring and having a passageway for a length of the curl spring to uncurl from the body and extend above the body; and
- b. a free end region of the uncurled length of the curl spring being connected to a mount that is releasably retained on an upper region

a
of the shoe body until the mount is fastened to a mounting surface.

1427. (AMENDED) [A sash shoe for engaging a sash and moving with the sash so that the shoe transmits to the sash an upwardly biased counterbalance lifting force, the] The balance system of claim 13 having a sash shoe comprising:

- a. the shoe being arranged for holding a sash connection and curled convolutions of a curl spring arranged so that an uncurled length of the curl spring can extend upward from the shoe;
- b. a companion carrier containing a companion curl spring arranged so that an uncurled length of the companion curl spring can extend upward from the companion carrier; and
- c. the curl spring and the companion curl spring being connected together above the companion carrier so that the curling tendencies of the springs tending to curl up any uncurled lengths of the springs are combined to provide the lifting force for the shoe.

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36. (AMENDED) [A sash shoe comprising] The improvement of claim 30 wherein each of said sash shoes comprises:

- a. two identical shoe body parts configured to interconnect;
- b. a sash pin receiver trapped between the interconnected body parts; and
- c. a cam formed on the sash pin receiver and cam follower surfaces formed on the interconnected shoe body parts so that turning the sash pin receiver cams the shoe body parts apart, for locking the shoe in a shoe channel.

55. (AMENDED) [A sash shoe comprising] The system of
claim 45 wherein each of said sash shoes comprises:

- P1 a. a shoe body mountable in either of two opposite orientations on either side of a tilt sash;
- P1 b. the shoe body being formed of a pair of identical parts that are interconnected so that either of two opposite faces of the shoe body can be disposed to confront the sash;
- P1 c. a pin receiver trapped between the body parts and having openings on opposite sides so that a sash pin can enter the receiver from either opposite face of the shoe body; and
- P1 d. cam and follower surfaces being arranged between the receiver and the shoe body parts so that turning the receiver in either direction from a neutral position cams apart the shoe body parts to spread apart the opposite faces of the shoe body.

For any question on the application or the elections, the Examiner is invited to call applicant's attorney.

Respectfully submitted,
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Dated: MAR 25 1994

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231, on MAR 25 1994

Signature EB Austin
Date of Signature MAR 25 1994

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